

THE PURDUE UNIVERSITY CALUMET CHRONICLE

Week of April 10, 2012

Vol. 31, Issue 29

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Gary residents take pride in urban farm

Brandon Hayes
News Editor

When thinking of Gary, Ind., one might relate to its many stereotypes, such as a city of tough

streets, weak social structures and a scarce economic situation. From the shadows of its reputation of

poverty and crime emerges a new era of progress and community building. Urban farming is just one of those tools Gary is receiving from its residents.

The Stewart House Urban Farm and Gardens, located in the Midtown section of Gary at 1501 Massachusetts St., has been a work in progress for the past year. The project started as a partnership between two Gary congregations; Marquette Park United Methodist Church and Christ United Methodist Church.

Melvin Ward, Gary resident and volunteer coordinator for the project, said the property is owned by the Marquette Park United Methodist Church. The space is approximately 290 feet by 74 feet, and is in need of a solid, long-term fence and proper security.

During "work days," members of the community and the Region have showed up to lend a hand. While members from the immediate Midtown neighborhood have not yet shown a large interest, Ward said the response to the project as a whole has been overwhelming.

Many regional businesses and associations have supported the farm such as NIPSCO, Countyline Orchard, Purdue North Central, McShanes office supplies and grainer farms, Grow NWI and the Northwest Indiana Food Guild. Donated supplies include temporary fencing, signage, mulch, a bobcat tractor and labor from volunteers.

Ward said J and J Organics have donated approximately \$1000 in tomato plants, and a local lawyer has donated her time to help the farm become a non-profit organization. While many of the farms' supplies have been donated, Ward said they have reused as much material as possible from local properties that have been razed or redeveloped.

As the "food desert" of Gary seeks to find more affordable and localized sources of produce, Ward described the current food system as a "food justice issue."

"Relationships fall apart in our food system between farm and plate; there is no accountability," Ward said. "Not having that

See Farm page 4



Photo: Tavares Allen

The Stewart House Urban Farm & Gardens is a brand new farming project on 15th and Massachusetts Street in Gary Indiana.

In Memory of Etel Billig (Dec 16, 1932 – Mar 28, 2012)



Dante Silguero
Asst. News Editor

One week ago today I received a text from my friend that brought tears to my eyes. I didn't want to believe it, but my former director, professor, and friend Etel Billig died in her office from a brain aneurysm.

I first met Billig when I auditioned for a summer production of "Babes in Arms" at her Illinois Theatre Center. Although I was cast as a bit part, I looked forward to every four-hour rehearsal. Billig's radiance lit up the stage like Broadway and even if she could be a slave driver to her performers, she always knew what was best for the show.

What really took me by surprise with Billig was her energy. She was a little old lady of about 75-years-old when I first met her, but the second rehearsals started she was running around on stage,

dancing the choreography, and helping us move set pieces to show where they belonged for each scene. Her passion for theater burned with the fire of a thousand suns.

Billig and her late husband, Steven, founded the Illinois Theatre Center in 1976, and it was with this theatre that she gave many actors their big breaks. Michael Shannon, who was nominated for the Oscar for Best Supporting Actor for his role in "Revolutionary Road," got his first acting role in the Illinois Theatre Center's production of "Winterset." Though the theater

"She loved her actors, she loved her stage, and, most of all, she loved the art."

started small, Billig fought tooth and nail to get her theater and her actors the press they deserved.

I remember a night after rehearsals where I overheard her arguing with a reporter over the phone. From what I can recall,

See Billig page 4

New changes to Pell Grant requirements

Lakieta King
Chronicle Correspondent

A new budget blueprint implemented by the Obama administration will preserve the Pell Grant from Republican cuts. The GOP measure would slash the maximum Pell by \$845. However, this new blueprint budget comes with a few limitations.

Arne Duncan, education secretary said the administration had to make "tough choices" to sustain the maximum grant at \$5,550. By the end of 2012 the Federal Pell Grant program will have a \$20 billion deficit. Because of this, starting July 1, 2012 as voted by congress in December, students will face greater restrictions on the Federal Pell Grant. The number of semesters that a student is allowed to receive the Federal Pell Grant, 18 has been reduced to 12; which affects 62,000 recipients.

Pell Grant receivers have increased by more than 50 percent since 2008 according to the Department of Education. A yearly income of \$30,000; the original income cut-off for the grant, has now been reduced to \$23,000.

Changes such as these will make 100,000 out of the nine million grant recipients ineligible.

"These are painful cuts, make no mistake about it", Duncan said.

Furthermore, students without a high school diploma or equivalent will be barred from receiving the grant. Due to the passing of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2012, students who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent and did not complete secondary school in a homeschool setting can no longer gain eligibility for Title IV funds by passing an "ability-to-benefit" test.

In order to help pay for the grants, the elimination of the subsidized loan grace period will take place on loans made between July 1, 2012 and July 1, 2014. The elimination of the grace period will only affect graduate and professional students.

"It is regrettable that the administration is proposing to maintain Pell by making cuts to other student aid programs that provide much needed funds to students," said Justin Drager president of the National Assoc. of Student Financial Aid.

Sheryl Spivey, interim director of Financial Aid and Student Accounts said the change in semesters would not affect students that much due to Satisfactory Academic Progress. This allows students 150 percent of financial aid up to 12 semesters depending on the program. As far as the income change goes, Spivey said "Your individual circumstances determine what your EFC (Estimated Family Contribution) will be."

With these new Pell grant limits taking place paying for college will become an overwhelming task for 162,000 recipients.

Got story ideas?

Email us at
pucchronicle@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATIVE
update

The University Village:
Join a Thriving Community!

We are approaching the end of a very successful and vibrant semester within The University Village, and it is my honor to provide the campus with a few updates regarding our prosperous community.

77 University Village Residents Make the Dean's List!

It is with great pride that I announce that 77 University Village residents made the Fall 2011 Dean's List. During the month of February, the National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH), a housing student organization that recognizes that top 1% of on-campus residents while valuing leadership, academics, recognition, and service, created bulletin boards in both residence halls and listed the names of each Dean's List resident for the entire community to see. We are planning a special event to recognize these hardworking students.

UVHC Wins Indiana School of the Year for Purdue Calumet!

University Village Hall Council (UVHC) is affiliated with the Indiana Residence Hall Organization (IRHO), a student-run organization dedicated to improving the quality of residence life within college and university residence halls in Indiana. The School of the Year Award is given annually to recognize an outstanding IRHO member institution. UVHC submitted a bid on behalf of Purdue Calumet. UVHC members gave a presentation as to why Purdue Calumet deserved the award, outlining efforts and initiatives that the student leaders and staff within residence life have made throughout the year. In February, Purdue Calumet was recognized as School of the Year for Indiana!

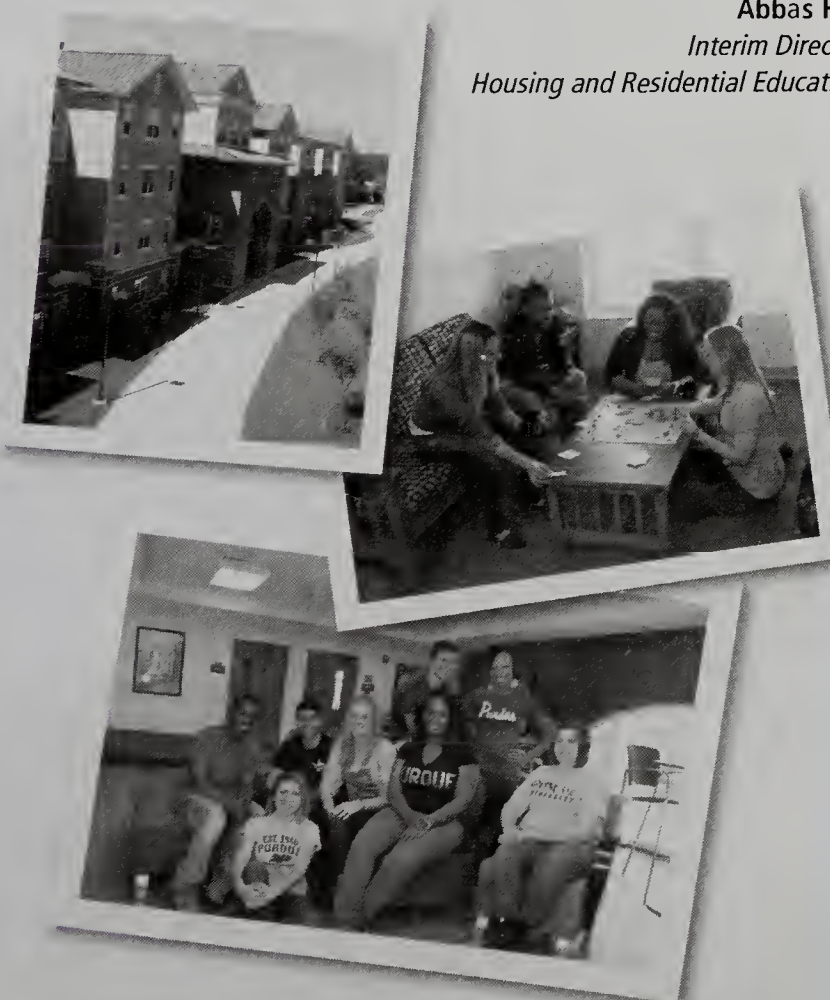
Phase I Lobby Furniture Has Arrived!

After much planning, preparation, and numerous fabric selections, the *Department of Housing and Residential Education, with the help of Space Management, Planning, and Design*, presented University Village Phase I with a facelift! The lobbies on every floor have received new furniture that has enhanced the vibrancy of the community. Phase I residents are definitely satisfied with the results so far!

Apply for Housing Today – Join a Thriving Community!

We invite you to be a part of this wonderful community. Our staff works hard to provide service and quality of residence life to our students. The changes that are being made and the life within these walls are championed by our residents and implemented for the residents of our community. All that is missing is you! Apply today at www.purduecal.edu/housing!

Best wishes,
Abbas Hill
*Interim Director
Housing and Residential Education*



What's Going On?
A look around PUC...

Student Writing Contest

TransitionsAbroad.com hosts an annual student writing contest for all currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate students, students who have graduated within the past year, and students currently on leave from school are eligible.

The following prizes will be awarded for the winning student writing submissions:

- 1st Place: \$500
- 2nd Place: \$150
- 3rd Place: \$100
- Runner-up: \$50
- All winning pieces will be published on the Transitions Abroad website and in the monthly Webzine (TAzine).
- For more information, visit <http://www.transitionsabroad.com/information/writers/student.shtml>

Get your goove on!

Wednesday, April 18
7 p.m. - 11 p.m.; Alumni Hall

S'mores Campfire

Tuesday, April 25
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Founders Plaza

Medieval Times Dinner and Show Trip

\$20 Students
\$36 Others
Includes bus ride (Schaumburg, IL), dinner & show
Register by May 1st in SUL 104B.
Saturday, May 12
4:30 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Anyone interested in publicizing events, organizations, clubs or departments in "What's Going On?" must submit briefs the Monday before publication. The Chronicle does not guarantee placement of briefs submitted.

Please limit submissions to four sentences and include the first and last name of the contact person.

Briefs may be submitted via e-mail at pucchronicle@gmail.com or campus cc: mail - Chronicle or to the newsroom located in the Student Union and Library building, room 344H.

THE PURDUE UNIVERSITY CALUMET
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Farewell and goodbye



Rey Perez
Business Manager

Ok, so I'll admit it. I'm a little worried, kind of scared, but extremely proud.

The comforts of college classrooms are coming to an end, the days of receiving grades are gone, and the times of taking tests have passed. Yup, college graduation.

Never did I think I would see the day where school became an afterthought. Never did I think that I would walk across a stage full of prestigious individuals who are congratulating me for my accomplishments. Never did I feel like I could take on the world because of what I have learned.

But with graduations happiness, for me, comes fear. I'll be the first to admit that I've been living in a state of panic at the possibility of not landing a job. I'll be the first to say that the thought of it even makes me cringe. However, it always excites

"Never did I feel like I could take on the world because of what I have learned."

me, and brings me a sense of great pride to be even applying for jobs that require a college diploma and tons of other criteria that I can easily meet.

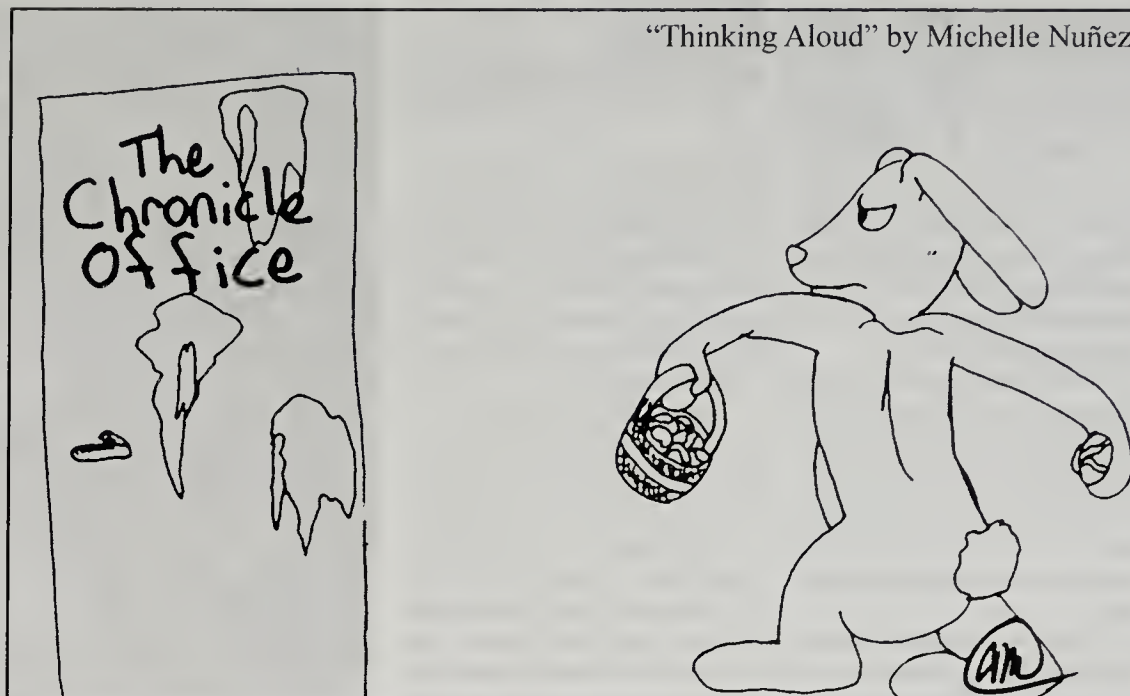
For this, I can thank not only myself and family for support, but for the incredible people I have met along the way who have shaped who I now am. The friends I've made, the groups I've been a part of, and the professors that have imparted their knowledge are all people that I will never forget for what they have done for me in the last five years. For me, none of what I have accomplished in the last years would have been anywhere near possible without them.

I now sit here; a week away from what could possibly be one of the greatest experiences of my life, with a chance to compete on a national stage and big time executives. Not many get the opportunities I've worked hard for, and for that I am truly grateful.

I'll take this as what has really become my farewell letter. I'll miss the rooms that became sanctuaries in the past year when myself and others found ourselves on campus until the middle of the night working on projects. I'll miss the conversations with professors who are genuinely excited that what they have said has had an impact on your life. I'll miss my co-workers who have made laugh on the toughest of days and the people I've met that I likely won't see after I leave. And hey, I'll probably even miss writing these random, weird, and sometimes inspirational columns. Congrats class of 2012.

Readers can contact Rey at chronicle_businessmanager@yahoo.com or (219) 989-2547.

"Thinking Aloud" by Michelle Nuñez



THE PURDUE UNIVERSITY CALUMET CHRONICLE

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Brian Lynch, Managing Editor
Brandon Hayes, News Editor
Jessica Gerlich, Entertainment Editor
Bill Koester, Sports Editor
Morgan Walker, Photo Editor
Sammy Gonzales, Production Manager
Rey Perez, Business Manager

A Sonnet To the Self-Appointed Ill- Will Ambassador to Islam

Who dares to speak must also give his ear
To admonition, for 'tis rarer in
This dismal age to have a saint appear
Than e'er it was, and whoso might begin
To think himself beyond reproach will find
His ev'ry utterance upon the scales.
Therefore, it would be wise to bear in mind
That unabashed slander never fails
To bring a swift and righteous judgment down
On him who gives it voice; and it is plain
To see that infamy – the scoundrel's crown –
Alone survives when naught else shall remain.
The surest safeguard 'gainst any complaint
Is simple practice of mature restraint.

T. F. Josephus, Jr.

COMMENTS?

Write to us and see your thoughts in print!

The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in submitted commentaries and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of The Chronicle or Purdue University Calumet. The Chronicle is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet. The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the writer's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification. The more concise the letter, the better chance of publication. All materials submitted to The Chronicle become the property of The Chronicle. The Chronicle reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Deadline for submissions is the Friday before the publication.

Slow and steady doesn't always win the race

Morgan Walker
Photo Editor



I read an article last week about how the Pell Grant is changing its eligibility rules and, with those changes, it will begin to narrow some of the default college funding options for low-income students.

I know quite a few fellow students who have had to take a semester or two off because of funding and their lack of eligibility for certain grants and scholarships.

In the past I didn't think this way, but now I see that going part-time or going full-time and screwing up three out of the four classes is not such a good idea. Yes I understand that many students have some non-negotiable things on their plate, such as children and working full-time as well.

I'm mostly addressing the students who are here and have nothing else to do but work part-time and surf Facebook. With the funding options dwindling, by the

"Intro to something' may stop you from getting your degree."

time you look up from goofing off in these "classes you can take over" there may come a time when "Intro to something" may stop you from getting your degree.

When you had the time, the money and no non-negotiable distractions, you could've earned your bachelor's degree.

I'm not saying that goofing up is everyone's reason for losing funding or not completing their degree requirements, but it is what I've seen over the years ever since I was a freshman.

I've even heard a student say that they were only coming to school to get the money, which is horrible. There are people who honestly need the funding and you're just using up money that could go towards someone else's education.

When registering for classes this coming fall, if you can handle it or have never given it a try, I suggest trying to take on five classes rather than your usual part-time status or having only four classes each semester.

That may just give you the boost you need to finish your degree requirements a tad faster. Plus, you never know what the future holds, so you should take more classes while the money is available. At least if it comes to that point, you won't have that much to finish if you had to start paying out of pocket for it.

After speaking to my advisor earlier this week, I found out that by taking five classes instead of four, I've shaved an entire year off my graduation date. So God willing, I will be walking across that stage May of 2013 just by giving a little more effort and taking that fifth class.

Readers can contact Rey at mawalker@purduecal.edu or (219) 989-2547.

\$30,000 decrease in Student Service Fees

Lakieta King
Chronicle Correspondent

Student Service Fees did not generate the expected amount for the following 2011-2012 fiscal year, according to Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services Ken Johnston. The Student Service Fee budget for an ensuing year is based on the income for the current year, along with consideration for rate changes.

The expected \$1,063,303 fell short with only \$1,001,818 generated for the 2011-2012 economic year. However, the revenue estimate for this year is \$1,028,900

due to a rate increase of 2.7 percent, which is an increase of this year's allotted \$1,025,000, a decrease of \$30,000 from last year's amount of \$1,055,000.

Growth also occurred in the enrollment estimates for student groups mainly online courses; the student service fee is not charged here. The SSF committee is currently determining the effect of this decrease in a series of meetings.

"This is a situation (having to manage with less resources) that we have faced all across campus, as expenditures have increased faster than revenues," Johnston said.

Billig

continued from page 1

the reporter didn't want to cover the production of "Babes in Arms" because he felt it wasn't newsworthy. I'll never forget that night, for it was the first and last night I ever heard my five foot tall, 75-year-old director call anyone a rather bad word.

Billig helped me develop myself as an actor. That is what made her so special. I could have just been some extra she needed, and I could have just been some kid in her class. Billig didn't think so. She believed that all parts, great and small, and all players, great and small, deserved the chance to develop and learn. She fought for her actors because she felt they all deserved the same opportunity at a break as everyone else.

She loved her actors, she loved her stage, and, most of all, she loved the art. She will forever be remembered and her influence on my life will carry through to the end. Rest well Etel, I'll make sure the show goes on.



Photo Provided
Director Etel Billig leaves behind her inspirational love for the stage.

Word Search Solution to April 2, 2012

R P R S R C L C S O R S E F O R P E G E L L O C O U
D T E O O S H I T E R E V I R D E L I B O M K O O B L E
C O H S T N S I B N S P H V C O U N S E L O R T E I T T
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S P E E C H P A T H O L O G I S T A E O T N H E S S C R
F I T N E S S T R A I N E R S O R S N T L O T P C N O L
J O B C O A C H T P A R E N T E D U C A T O R S O T A E

Farm

continued from page 1

knowledge, we don't know what is in our food or who prepares it."

Steven Brumfield, a Gary resident and intern at the City of Gary Drug Court, said he would like to see the Gary Court system partner with the farm to provide education and a sense of community.

"It makes a big difference when you care about where you live," Brumfield said. "I want to see more people say, 'I don't need a gang to be social.'"

Brumfield, who frequently volunteers his time at the farm as a guard, said he believes there is a food shortage in Gary. He described the produce in the local supermarkets as overpriced and nearly rotten.

"The reality is that we typically have three days worth of food in our stores," Brumfield said. "Knowing where your food comes from provides a sense of security."

Ward said during the farm's first season, they will be planting tomatoes, cucumbers, blue-

berry bushes, a small orchard and plants native to the region. He said there will also be a demonstration garden, where residents will be able to learn the skill of gardening. The farm will also include special sections, such as a pizza garden, where the ingredients for making pizza will be grown.

Gary native Jonathan Wilson said he believes the farm will give the people of Gary a sense of power that is greatly needed.

"Gary is a food desert," Wilson described. There are a few grocery stores (Save More, County Market), but in many cases the [price of] food is too high or not even fresh. People have no real choice but to shop there, so this would give them better and healthier options," he said.

While Gary's first urban farm begins to grow, Ward said he can see the potential for more localized farms to develop throughout the city of Gary.

"In fact, I see it as inevitable for more farms to begin."

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'Journey' sends players on a strange trip

Brian Lynch
Managing Editor



For several years now, many people have debated on whether or not video games can be considered works of art. Some feel that the interactive nature of games prevents it from being art, which is largely something that an audience must experience but not control. Others see games as a new medium in which artists can express their creativity on a digital canvas. While both sides of the

debate make valid arguments, it is hard to look at a game such as the PS3 exclusive "Journey" without considering it a work of art.

The plot details of "Journey" are as sparse and barren as its desert setting. Players take control of a nameless and voiceless shrouded humanoid, whose sole purpose is to reach a mountain range across a vast and desolate desert. There are no lengthy opening cutscenes, nor are there any extended monologues to explain the story to players. When the game begins, there is only the player and an endless expanse of sand as far as the eye can see.

Interactions with the environment are equally minimalistic. Players can move the character with the left stick, and Sixaxis controller gestures manipulate the camera. As the game progresses, players discover the ability to emit a chime by pressing the circle button. The chime produces different reactions, allowing the character to trigger responses in the environment in order to advance. These reactions range from converting windswept tapestries into bridges to unlocking ancient doorways. Before long, players discover they are able to absorb strands of loose cloth which give

the ability to glide into the air with the press of the X button. This ability is limited to a handful of uses, and glowing glyphs on the character's scarf indicate whether or not players are able to use it.

That, in a nutshell, is the entire game. Players make their way through the sandy wasteland in order to get to a mountain. There are no guns, no enemies and no edgy dialogue. "Journey" is a game that strips away virtually all traditional elements of a video game, leaving players with an experience that feels both familiar and totally alien at the same time.

The world of "Journey" contains some of the most hauntingly beautiful scenery ever depicted in a video game. The desert sand glitters like gold beneath the scorching sun, and vibrant tapestries flutter against the unforgiving wind. Long-forgotten stone architecture juts up from the sand, revealing what appears to be a civilization lost to the elements. Further on, innumerable rows of stone markers, likely gravestones, litter the landscape. Eventually, the game moves to more interior locations and the locales become more abstract and foreign, yet the devastation this civilization suffered remains clear. None of this information is told to the players, nor does it play into the story in any way. But from these simple visual cues, "Journey" manages

to show a story better than most games can tell.

The game introduces the concept of online cooperative play in an equally discreet way. If players enable the option, a second player can enter the game via the PlayStation Network. This second player is completely anonymous, and there is no way for either person to communicate in-game. Instead, the additional person acts as a silent companion on your journey. If the other person has already finished the game they may act as a guide, helping to lead the way forward. Otherwise, both players must explore the mysteries of the world and find their way together. Regardless of the practical usefulness, having a second player creates an atmosphere of comfort in "Journey." The world is so utterly desolate that it is surprising how reassuring finding another living being is, even without the means to communicate with them.

At \$15, many may balk "Journey," especially considering the game only takes around two to four hours to complete. What it lacks in content and quantity, however, it more than makes up for in atmosphere and overall experience. And if the experience is what defines something as a work of art, then there is no denying "Journey's" artistic merits.

"Journey" is available for PS3 via the PlayStation Store.



kotaku.com

Ancient and decaying stone architecture are just one of the sights worth seeing in "Journey."

Office of Student Activities

www.purduecal.edu/studentactivities



Student Activities Presents
Movie and Popcorn:
School of Rock

Weds., April 18
TV Room, SUL
11am, 1pm & 3pm
Free



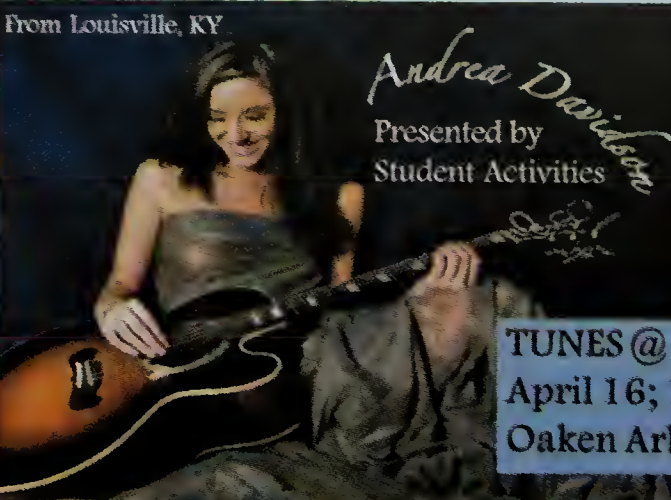


Student Activities Presents
FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Kung Fu Panda 2
The Kaboom of Doom

Friday, April 13
6:00pm - 7:30pm
TV Room, SUL

Voices by:
Jack Black, Angelina Jolie, Jackie Chan



Andrea Davidson
Presented by
Student Activities

MUSIC INFLUENCED FROM THE MELODIC VIBRATIONS OF THE BEATLES TO THE LYRICAL RESONANCE OF BOB DYLAN, THE SOULFUL SOUNDS OF RAY WITHERS AND MARVIN GAYE, TO THE ACOUSTIC FEEL OF RAY LA MONTAGNE AND PATY GRIFIN



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Saturday, May 12
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\$20 Students
\$36 Others

Includes bus ride (Schaumburg, IL), dinner & show

Register by May 1st in SUL 104B.
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Madonna gives it all in 'MDNA'

Michelle Mullins
Asst. Entertainment Editor



Topping charts left and right, the queen of pop has returned with her 12th album "MDNA." This pop album is perfectly blended with 80s dance-pop and the modern sensation of dubstep. Dance anthems briskly move the album along before coming to a gentle and beautifully lyrical close which showcases Madonna's superb writing.

Songs like "I'm Addicted" and "Turn Up the Radio" sound very familiar with their catchy beats and straight-forward lyrics. These tunes will easily make their way to the airwaves, but may not quite make it to the top of the charts. With lyrics like "Your name's like a drug/ And I can't get enough/ And it fits like a glove/ I'm addicted to your love," finding their way to the hook "I'm Addicted," fans may think she has lost her touch, but "Superstar" should shake this fear. With a thumping drumbeat similar to stomping in the stands of a basketball game and a soft guitar riff, this song lifts the spirits and sends listeners to the beach on a summer day. With a chorus heralding "Ooh la la you're my superstar/ Ooh la la love the way that you are," it is easy to sing along and can quickly turn the brain into a broken jukebox.

Madonna proves that she can still bring out the big guns with her song "Gang Bang," which is clearly about her divorce with director Guy Richie. The thumping bassline and ominous feel immediately sets the tone that this song is going deep and dark. Stripping her bubble-pop persona, Madonna reaches into her bag of tricks and pulls out some dubstep as the song's tempo drops, "You had to die for me baby/ That's right, you had to die for me baby/ How could I move on with my life/ If you didn't die for me baby." Her voice barely rises above a whisper as she spits out the harsh lyrics that crawl from the speakers. The tone of vengeance and sadism is readily apparent as she swears to kill the person who broke her heart,

"Bang bang, shot you dead, shot my lover in the head."

M.I.A. and Nicki Minaj's appearances in "Give Me All Your Luvin'" almost seem thrown in to add more time, or perhaps relevance, to the song. They sound really out of place, besides that the two are completely different types of rappers. M.I.A. has more of a smooth flow and is straightforward with her raps, whereas Minaj is known for her extreme, boisterous raps. On the contrary, Minaj's contribution to "I Don't Give A" fits perfectly with the tempo and manages not to throw the song into a frenzy of grunts and snarls. The almost hip-hop beat and Madonna's singing/rap give the song an extra push that allows Minaj to squeeze in, finishing the song with "There's only one Queen, and that's Madonna."

"Masterpiece" was featured on Madonna's film "W.E." and won a Golden Globe. The words "And I can't tell you why/ It hurts so much/ To be in love with a masterpiece/ Cause after all/ Nothing's indestructible" escape from Madonna's soft and delicate voice as she sings this sorrowful song. Although "Masterpiece" won an award, "Falling Free" is the most powerful song on the album, which makes it an even better choice as a closer. Her voice rises and falls in the moving ballad -- it carries and holds where it needs to and is perfectly sweet and soft in other places. "Deep and pure our hearts align/ When I let loose the need to know/ Then we're both free, we're free to go" flows gently from her and lands softly in the hearts of listeners.

Whatever it is Madonna does to consistently create great albums does not need to be known. Whether it is the hiatuses or the crazy media she attracts, it has been working for 25 years and shows no stopping with "MDNA."

Rating System

★★★★★ ESSENTIAL
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NHL Pacific is up for grabs



Aaron Krivanek
Chronicle Correspondent

With less than a week remaining in the NHL regular season, five out of a total of 16 playoff spots are still up for grabs. Of the five playoff spots remaining, one in particular has caught the attention of the entire hockey world: third seed in the Western Conference.

What makes this playoff spot interesting is that it can be clinched by any one of four teams in the Pacific Division: the Phoenix Coyotes, the Los Angeles Kings, the Dallas Stars and the San Jose Sharks.

As it currently stands, the Kings are in first place with 93 points. In second place are the Coyotes with 91 points, in third are the Sharks with 90 points and in fourth are the Stars with 89 points.

With the lead changing in the division on a near daily basis, the four teams are showing just how badly they want to win it. Although three of these four teams will definitely reach the playoffs this year, they all have their own reasons for wanting to take the top spot that include more than just having a home ice advantage.

The Kings have not won their division since the 1990-91 season and they have made it to the Stanley Cup Finals only once in their 41 year history and lost. The Kings have a history of early

playoff exits that they would like to erase with a championship this year and winning the division may be an excellent place to start.

The Coyotes have been to the playoffs many times since they came into being in 1996. The Coyotes have officially never won their Division and have never made it past round one of the playoffs since 1987, when they were still the old Winnipeg Jets.

The Sharks have won the division six times, won the President's Trophy once (2008), and have been to the Western Conference Finals twice. Yet despite these impressive credentials, the Sharks have never made it past the Conference Final round.

Winning the Pacific Division for a seventh time might help them win their first Stanley Cup, but if they want to win they should focus not on winning games and championships, but on playing their game effectively, especially if they intend to win those later round games. Only time will tell if they have what it takes to win it all this year.

The Stars are the only team in this group that has ever won a Stanley Cup. This means that even though many of the players from 1998-99 Stanley Cup winning team are now either retired or playing elsewhere and the front office has made several changes in the time since, the team and its fans know what it takes to earn the right to hoist Lord Stanley's Cup over their shoulders. The Stars are not lacking in veteran players, and at this point it may not be all that important for the Stars to win their Division. All Dallas really needs to do is settle down and bring out the intensity that won them their first and as of yet only Stanley Cup back in 1998-99.

May the best team win.

Tennis

continued from page 8

Until then, the team would like to focus on playing tennis and enjoying their season.

"We want to continue to get better, win matches and have fun," said Jaranowski.

PUC takes the court again April 11, when they play a home match against Calumet College of St. Joseph in Merrillville.

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SEPTEMBER							

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Saihat repeats as soccer champs

Michelle Calhoun
Sports Writer

Intramural soccer concluded its spring 2012 season when Saihat emerged as the Champions.

The first game of the evening was Saihat vs. Kalloon. Saihat was the defending champs from 2011, and all of the players were confident they were going to win it again this year. They lived up to that confidence in the first game, as they beat Kalloon by a score of 8-7.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the gym, Manchester Calumet and Excalibur were duking it out for the final spot. Rodney Watson of Manchester Calumet talked about why he played:

"My favorite part is how fast-paced it can get. Going up against the opponents is exciting." Watson believes the best way to do well in any team sport is to remember it as that, and that every teammate must work together as a unit.

"If you are slightly off that can mess it all up," he said

In the end, the game went to Excalibur with a final score of 13-4. The team was excited and looking forward to going against the Saihat in the Championship game.

The final game started off fast and ended even faster. There was a short break before the game started so both teams could take a breather, and it seemed that was all Saihat needed for the victory, as they came into the game strong and fast.

The game ended before the first half finished, with a final score being 9-0.

Head of the Intramural Sports Matt Dudzik was impressed with the overall great season and how the players main-

tained good sportsmanship for most of the season. Towards the end it became heated but it soon cooled down.

"The number of players we had this season was the best we've had," Dudzik said.

He also commented on that he appreciated the Athletic Department recruiting a few men and women to join in on the intense sport.

"It's fun to see how they get into it with a lot of them," he said. "You can see their passion for it."



Photo: Morgan Walker

Brenno Medrado (in red) deflects the ball from Sharaf Alsadah (obscured) during the intramural soccer championship game April 2.

Women's tennis begins quest for playoffs

Julie Sipek
Sports Writer

The PUC women's tennis team began the spring part of their season against nationally ranked conference foe Robert Morris University on April 3. The Eagles emerged from the match victorious by a score of 9-0.

PUC came away with only two wins on the day. Juniors Felicia Deardorff and Dawn Jaranowski won No. 2 doubles for the women, while freshman Sarah Hojnicky won No. 2 singles. Other than that the match was all RMU.

"Though the scores didn't reflect it, there were a lot of competitive points played out there, and overall I was impressed with how the ladies played," Head Coach Tim Maluga said.

Although Robert Morris is always a tough match-up, PUC was also at a disadvantage, missing some of their top players.

"Since RMU is ranked in the top 25 in the nation and is probably the best team in our conference, we knew we were in for a tough match, especially since we were without two of our top five players," Maluga said.

Even with the absence of two players, PUC was able to do

things well on the court and put out a strong effort.

"We were ready to have fun playing tennis," said Jaranowski. "Robert Morris was a very tough match, and as a team we played well."

PUC looks to build off of the fall half of their season in order to improve as a program.

"This team is much deeper than last spring's team," said Maluga.

After RMU, the women had to take on Judson University and they came into the match confident despite their loss earlier in the week.

"If we play at the same level as we did against RMU, and have our full lineup, it should be an extremely competitive match, where the key will be to win the big points," Maluga said before the match.

PUC hopes to carry the confidence they have early on this season all the way into the post-season.

"I expect us to move at least another notch or two up in the conference standings, and I would like to see us advance to at least the conference tournament semifinals," Maluga said.

See Tennis page 7



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